

YSTRADGYNLAIS RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL



Annual Report

OF THE

Medical Officer of Health

Dr. C. E EDWARDS, B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

AND THE

Public Health Inspector

W. EMLYN JONES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

For the year 1965

The Medical Officer's Report

To the Chairman and Members of the Council

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have the honour of presenting the Annual Report for the health and sanitary circumstances of the district for the year 1965.

The health of the district during the year has on the whole been good, the majority of deaths being in the higher age groups. There has been an absence of any serious outbreaks of epidemic disease. Six cases of pulmonary tuberculosis were reported and have been adequately and quickly dealt with by the Chest Physicians at the Adelina Patti Memorial Hospital Craigynos, Penycae.

There have been no outbreaks of food poisoning during the year. Inspections have been carried out from time to time of various food handling stores, bake houses, licensed premises and shops selling ice cream in accordance with the regulations. Minor defects have been pointed out and corrected. It has not been necessary to take any legal proceedings under the By-laws.

The rehousing of families from unfit dwellings continues together with applicants from the ordinary lists in cases of hardship, illness and overcrowding.

I wish to tender my best thanks to the Council for their helpful consideration and co-operation in all matters affecting Public Health. Also the Officers of the Council for their help in all matters appertaining to the duties of the Health Department.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

CREIGHTON E. EDWARDS

B.Sc., M.B., B.Ch., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

SEWERAGE

The whole district is on main drainage with one sewerage disposal works. The disposal plant has been working normally and the sewerage effluent complies with the standard laid down by the Royal Commission.

STATISTICS AND LOCAL CONDITIONS

The district consists of two parishes, Ystradgynlais Higher and Ystradgynlais Lower, their respective areas 13,182 and 9,016, a total of 22,198 acres.

Population : 10,710.

Industries : Ystradgynlais Lower is more industrial in nature than Ystradgynlais Higher and is more thickly populated. The chief industries are coal mining, watch making, light engineering and furniture manufacture, quarrying and agriculture.

VITAL STATISTICS

BIRTHS	<i>Ystradgynlais R.D.C. Brecon R.D.C.</i>			
No. of legitimate live births ..	76	70	146	812
No. of illegitimate live births ..	5	4	9	53
Total live births	81	74	155	865
Birth Rate per 1000 population 1965			14.51	15.88
Registrar General comparability factor			1.05	1.12
No. of still births legitimate ..	0	1	1	17
No. of still births illegitimate ..	0	0	0	3
Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births			5.8	6.12
Total live and still births	81	75	156	885
Still births per 1000 live and still births			6.41	22.59

DEATHS

Total deaths for district	89	56	145	696
Crude death rate per 1000 of population			13.54	12.78
Registrar General comparability factor			1.06	0.90
Corrective Death rate			14.35	

MATERNAL MORTALITY

NIL

INFANT MORTALITY

Ystradgynlais *Brecon*
R.D.C. *R.D.C.*

Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age :

	<i>Male</i>		<i>Female</i>		<i>Total</i>		<i>Total</i>
Legitimate	3	0	0	0	3	0	16
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Infant Mortality Rate per 1000 live births					19.36	19.65	

Neo Natal Mortality Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age

Legitimate	2	0	0	2	0	11
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	0	0	2	0	11
Neo Natal Mortality rate per 1000 live births				12.9	11.56	

Deaths of Infants under 1 week of age

Legitimate	2	0	0	2	0	10
Illegitimate	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	2	0	0	2	0	10
Early Neo Natal Mortality Rate per 1000 live births				12.9	11.56	

PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE

Deaths of Infants under 1 week
of age plus number of still

births	0	..	0	..	0	
No. of deaths under 1 week of age	2	..	0	..	2	..
No. of still births	0	..	1	..	1	..
Perinatal mortality rate ..	..	..	..	19.2	30.50	

CANCER DEATHS

No. of deaths from malignant
neoplasms and lymphatic

neoplasms	10	..	14	..	24	.. 104.
Cancer death rate .....	..	..	..	2.241	1.90	

CAUSES OF DEATH

Pulmonary Tuberculosis ..	0	..	0	..	0	
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	2	..	1	..	3	
Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	6	..	1	..	7	
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	..	4	..	4	
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	..	2	..	2	
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	..	5	..	7	
Leukaemia, Aleukeamia	0	..	1	..	1	
Diabetes	0	..	1	..	1	
Vascular lesions of nervous system	9	..	7	..	16	
Coronary disease, angina ..	28	..	11	..	39	
Hypertension with heart disease	0	..	2	..	2	
Other heart disease	5	..	5	..	10	
Other circulatory disease ..	4	..	5	..	9	
Influenza	0	..	0	..	0	
Pneumonia	5	..	1	..	6	
Bronchitis	7	..	1	..	8	
Other diseases of respiratory system	10	..	0	..	10	
Congenital malformations ..	1	..	0	..	1	

Other defined and ill-defined diseases	5	..	5	..	10
Gastritis, Enteritis, Dairrhoea	0	..	2	..	2
Nephritis & Nephrosis ..	0	..	1	..	1
Motor vehicle accidents	4	..	0	..	4
All other accidents	1	..	0	..	1
Other infective & parasitic diseases	0	..	1	..	1
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All casuses ..	89	..	56	..	145

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Measles	33
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TUBERCULOSIS

New Cases Notified :

	<i>Male</i>	<i>Female</i>	<i>Total</i>
Respiratory	4	2	6
Non-respiratory	0	0	0

LABORATORY FACILITIES

General Medical : Beck Laboratory General Hospital,
Swansea

Water Supplies : Public Health Laboratory Services,
Carmarthen

Milk : Public Health Laboratory Services, Carmarthen.

HOSPITAL SERVICES

Infectious Diseases : The infectious disease Hospital is situated at Hill House, Swansea and is under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.

General Hospital Facilities : General Hospital facilities are provided for at Swansea General Hospital, Morriston Hospital and the West Glamorgan Hospital at Neath, all of which are under the control of the Regional Hospital Board.

Ambulance Services : There are two Ambulances in the district and they are under the control of the Breconshire County Council.

WATER SUPPLIES

There are five piped supplies in the area, four of which are chlorinated. The water has been satisfactory in quality and quantity and every house has its own piped supply, except in the case of a few scattered dwellings such as isolated farms. There has been no evidence of any form of contamination. There are no stand pipes supplies.

Date	Water Supply	Results
21.1.65	Garwleisiau	Satisfactory
	Lion Supply	"
	Ffrydiau Twrch	"
	Colbren Supply	"
18.2.65	Ffrydiau Twrch	"
	Colbren Supply	"
	Lion Supply	"
	Garwleisiau	"
12.3.65	Garwleisiau	"
	Lion Supply	"
	Colbren Supply	"
	Ffrydiau Twrch	"
9.4.65	Colbren Supply	"
	Ffrydiau Twrch	"
	Lion Supply	"
	Garwleisiau	"
12.5.65	Colbren Supply	"
	Ffrydiau Twrch	"
	Lion Supply	"
	Garwleisiau	"

18.6.65	Garwleisiau	„
	Colbren Supply	„
	Ffrydiau Twrch	Unsatisfactory
	Lion Supply	„
8.7.65	Ffrydiau Twrch	Satisfactory
	Colbren Supply	„
	Lion Supply	„
	Garwleisiau	„
7.8.65	Ffrydiau Twrch	„
	Colbren Supply	„
	Garwleisiau	Unsatisfactory
	Lion Supply	„
21.8.65	Ffrydiau Twrch	Satisfactory
	Colbren Supply	„
	Garwleisiau	„
10.9.65	Ffrydiau Twrch	„
	Colbren Supply	„
	Garwleisiau	„
	Lion Supply	„
7.10.65	Garwleisiau	„
	Lion Supply	„
	Ffrydiau Twrch	„
	Colbren Supply	„
12.11.65	Ffrydiau Twrch	„
	Garwleisiau	„
	Lion Supply	„
	Colbren Supply	„
22.12.65	Garwleisiau	„
	Colbren Supply	„
	Lion Supply	„
	Ffrydiau Twrch	„

The Public Health Inspector's Report

To the Chairman and Members of the Council,

Mr. Chairman and Members,

I have the honour of presenting my report for the year ended 31st December, 1965.

7 new houses and 6 Old Age Pensioners Bungalows were completed and occupied during the year. 5 houses were repaired during the year and a further 31 houses were brought up to the Standard of Fitness required by the Housing Repairs & Rents Act 1954.

Routine inspection of Food Premises were made and advice given where necessary. The inspection of locally killed meat was maintained at 100%.

61 inspections were made under the Offices Shops and Railway Premises Act to which the Act applies and all now comply with the requirements of the Act with the exception of one shop. There are no large establishments in the area practically all falling into the family business category.

Your Obedient Servant,

W. EMLYN JONES,

(Public Health Inspector)

GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Housing Inspections and Re-inspections (Housing and Public Health Acts)

Water Supply	14
Drainage	23
Housing Inspections	293
Infectious Diseases	8
Verminous Premises	0
Factories and Workshops	1
Licensed Premises	1
Atmospheric Pollution	0
Rodent Control	3
Refuse Collection and Disposal	152
Butchers	289
Canteens	5
Grocers	35
Fried Fish Shops	20
Bakehouses	11
Miscellaneous Food Visits	10
Food Preparing Premises	45
Ice Cream Premises	8
Tents, Vans and Sheds	10
Public Conveniences	74
Miscellaneous Sanitary Visits	16
Slaughterhouses	220
Offices and Shops Act	61
Schools	0
Hospitals	0
Dairies	4

Sampling Visits :

Milk	6
Ice Cream	11

Total	1320
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INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES

(a)	Total Number of dwellinghouses inspected during the year. (Public Health and Housing Acts.)	
(b)	Number of inspections for the purpose.....	293
	Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal notices	6
	Number of dwellings rendered fit in consequence of formal action by the Local Authority	0
	Action under the Statutory Powers during the year	
(a)	Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Acts 1936.	0
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs	6
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses rendered fit after service of formal notices	0
(a)	By Owner	0
(b)	By Local Authority in default of owners	0
(b)	Proceedings under Section 11 and 13 of the Housing Acts 1936	0
(1)	Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made	3
(2)	Number of dwellinghouses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	2
(3)	Number of dwellinghouses closed in pursuance of undertaking given by owners under Section 11....	3
(4)	Statutory Notices served under Water Act	0

(5) Number complied with	0
(c) Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936	0
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined and tenements or rooms having been rendered fit.	0

NOTICES SERVED

Under the Housing Act :

Number of Informal Notices served	0
Number of Informal Notices complied with	0
Number of Formal Notices served	0
Number of Formal Notices complied with	0

Under the Public Health Act :

Number of Informal Notices served	7
Number of Informal Notices complied with	5
Number of Formal Notices served	1
Number of Formal Notices complied with	0

PUBLIC CLEANSING

PUBLIC CLEANSING

Both collection and disposal is carried out by direct labour and three collections weekly are made with the exception of main shopping centre where the collections are carried out daily. The total tonnage collected during the year was 9,117 tons.

Three sites are used for tipping, Pantmawr, Rheolau and Yniswen; at these tips a measure of controlled tipping is practised. Waste material from building operations and

County Council road sweepings are used for covering purposes levelling and tidying up being done by the Bristol Tractor. Infestation on the tips is kept under control by the Rodent Operator.

DISINFECTION

Eight houses were disinfected during the year which is a reflection on the low incidence of infectious diseases in the locality. Fumigation by formalin gas was carried out in these cases and a free supply of liquid disinfectant for the use of house-holders concerned in washing down the premises, bed-clothes, drains etc.

MILK SUPPLY

Milk delivery vans were inspected under the Milk and Dairies Regulations 1949 and were found to be satisfactorily kept. During the year 6 samples of milk were taken for analysis all of which were reported as being satisfactory.

ICE CREAM

Only three premises are now used in the district for the manufacture of ice-cream—the greater quantity of this commodity now being sold in pre-packed form in shops and received from the large nationally known manufacturers from without the area. The local ice-cream factories are regularly inspected, particularly during the summer months and a satisfactory degree of cleanliness is always observed. 42 samples were taken for analysis from these premises with the following results :

No. of samples	42
No. in Grade 1	21
No. in Grade 2	15
No. in Grade 3	5
No. in Grade 4	1

It is encouraging to note from these figures that by far the greater number of samples were placed in Grades 1 and 2 and that only one was place in Grade 4.

FRIED FISH SHOPS

A register of Fried Fish Shops is kept and five premises throughout the area have been registered. Inspections are made during the daytime when preparation for the evening's business is carried on, also occasional visits are made during the evening. I have no cause to report any serious breach of the regulations.

PRESERVED FOODS

Ten premises have been registered under the Food and Drugs Act as premises for the manufacture of preserved foods. These are butchers shops or butchery departments at Co-operative Stores where sausages are made. A separate room is used for the manufacturing process and a high standard of cleanliness is demanded at these premises. The premises, including the utensils are inspected and examined thoroughly. Every effort is made to inspect these premises at least once a month more often than not during the hours of manufacturing.

MEAT INSPECTION

Inspections were systematically made at the Colbren and Cwmgiedd Slaughterhouses and with only two slaughterhouses to cope with and a limited amount of slaughtering it was possible to obtain almost 100% inspection of all animals slaughtered during the year. In all 220 visits were made for this purpose and the following is a list of animals inspected :

<i>Animals Inspected</i>		<i>Parts condemned Diseases except T.B. and Cysticerci</i>	<i>Whole Carcases Condemned. All diseases except Cysticerci.</i>
Beasts	66	99 lbs.	NIL
Cows	5	10 lbs.	NIL
Calves	1	NIL	NIL
Sheep	1043	208 lbs.	NIL
Pigs	53	NIL	1

Meat imported into the district was also inspected from time to time.

SLAUGHTERHOUSES

During the year the following slaughterhouses were registered :

1. Danygraig, Colbren, occupied by Mr. John Jeffreys.
2. Glangiedd, Cwmgiedd, occupied by Mr. T. J. E. Thomas.

These slaughterhouses are inspected regularly, together with all animals slaughtered therein.

FOOD PREMISES

Food shops, canteens and restaurants were visited regularly and the Food Hygiene Regulations were brought to the notice of all persons in charge or employed in such premises.

Following is a list of food condemned during the year as being unfit for human consumption :

Corned Beef	.....	123 lbs.
Canned Fish	.....	16 lbs.
Canned Fruit and Vegetables	.....	590 Tins
Other Foods	.....	125 Tins
Meat at Slaughterhouses		58 lbs.
Meat at Shops	.....	250 lbs.

SEWAGE EFFLUENT

Samples of sewage effluent were taken at the Council's Sewage Works prior to being discharged into the River Tawe and on these the Public Analyst summarised as follows :

Sample No. 1 (24th February, 1965)

That oxidation has proceeded satisfactorily on the bacteria beds is shown by the low albuminoid and the high

nitrate content of the effluent. This sample shows the usual high qualities associated with this plant viz. stability and a B.O.D. figure well below the Royal Commission Standard of 20 p.p.m.

Sample No. 2 (2nd August, 1965)

This was a well oxidised effluent, stable in character and complying easily with both requirements of the Royal Commission namely viz :

Matter in suspension less than 30 p.p.m.

B.O.D. less than 20 p.p.m.

The quality of this effluent shows that the purification plant was being very efficiently maintained.

Sample No. 3 (24th December, 1965)

This effluent contained very little unoxidised nitrogenous matter. That in suspension amounted to 12 p.p.m. which is only about a third of the limiting figure of 30 p.p.m. laid down by the Royal Commission. Its B.O.D. was also only about a third of the 20 p.p.m. recommended by the Commission. The chloride content of the sample showed that the effluent had been derived from a weak domestic sewage. Nevertheless, the excellence of the final effluent shows that the plant was working efficiently and was being well attended.

HOUSING

7 new houses and 6 Old Age Pensioners Bungalows became ready during the year and were allocated.

Repairs to existing Houses

Good use is being made of Standard and Discretionary Grants and Improvements carried out to existing houses including the installation of a bath, wash-hand basin, hot and

cold water supply, W.C. and a food store. The Surveyor reports that the following improvements were carried out :

Standard Grants	.....	13	Grant Payable	....	£1309
Discretionary Grants	..	18	Grant Payable	..	£5597
Total					<hr/> £6906 <hr/>

This means that 31 houses were brought up to the standard of fitness required by the Housing Repairs and Rents Act 1954, thus saving the need of building this number of houses at the approximate cost of £64,000.

The work carried out was as follows :

No. of Baths installed	.....	10
No. of Wash-hand basins	.....	12
No. of Hot and Cold Water supply		12
No. of Water Closets	.....	12
No. of Food Stores	.....	8

OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

Inspections were carried out to all premises covered by the Act and in all a total of 61 visits were made. The following is a synopsis of the information gathered from the survey :

<i>Premises</i>	<i>No. Registered</i>	<i>Persons Employed</i>
Offices	21	41
Retail Shops	25	53
Wholesale Shops	0	0
Catering Establishments ..	1	1
Fuel Storage Depot.	1	8
Offices and Shops Combined	0	52
	<hr/> 48 <hr/>	<hr/> 155 <hr/>

The notices served in respect of the 28 premises falling short of the requirements of the Act have all been complied with except one.

RAINFALL

January	7.59 ins.
February	0.12 ins.
March	3.43 ins.
April	3.99 ins.
May	3.78 ins.
June	6.21 ins.
July	5.55 ins.
August	3.83 ins.
September	5.73 ins.
October	3.60 ins.
November	5.30 ins.
December	18.14 ins.
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	67.27 ins.
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RODENT CONTROL

The work of the Rodent Operator during the year is summarised as follows :

Refuse Tips	27
Premises	337
Disfestations at farms ..	23

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

W. EMLYN JONES, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.

Public Health Inspector.

